

Message Text

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17

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 INT-05 OES-03 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:MFIDELMAN:JES

APPROVED BY NEA/INS:DKUX

COMMERCE:MADERHOLD (DRAFT)

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R 230057Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, CE

SUBJECT: TRADE INQUIRY - MERCURY ORDER

1. ON 14 OCTOBER, DESK OFFICER RECEIVED INQUIRY FROM OFFICIAL OF ASSOCIATED METALS AND MINERALS CORP., HEAD-QUARTERED IN NEW YORK. THEIR MEXICAN BRANCH OFFICE RECEIVED AN ORDER FOR 1000 FLASKS OF MERCURY, WORTH DOLS. 120,000, FOR SHIPMENT TO SRI LANKA. NO OTHER DETAILS WERE SUPPLIED. THE ORDER CAME FROM BORTEX, A TRADING COMPANY SAID TO BE LINKED TO VOLKSWAGEN, WHO WOULD ACT AS INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN AMM CORP. AND UNKNOWN CEYLONESE IMPORTER. THE CEYLONESE EMBASSY, HOWEVER, EXPRESSED SURPRISE ABOUT THE ORDER AND SUGGESTED CONTACTING STATE TRADING CORPORATION WHICH AMM CORP. WILL DO.

2. IN GENERAL COMPANY WISHES TO HAVE BETTER FEEL FOR LEGITIMACY OF THE REQUEST, WHETHER ORDER WILL REALLY GO TO SRI LANKA OR END UP IN THE HANDS OF A MINERAL SPECULATOR. ONLY POSSIBLE USE FOR THIS AMOUNT OF MERCURY WOULD BE FOR NEW CHLORINE OR MERCURY CELL PLANT. OTHER POSSIBLE USES OF MERCURY PERTINENT TO SRI LANKA INCLUDE

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MANUFACTURE OF CAUSTIC SODA, BATTERIES, OR PAINTS.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION EMBASSY
CAN DEVELOP RELATED TO MERCURY ORDER. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
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Draft Date: 23 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: woolflhd
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: MFIDELMAN:JES
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Executive Order: N/A
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Review Authority: woolflhd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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